

the step of forming the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type, the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type is formed so that the product between the impurity concentration of the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type measured beforehand and the width of the layer of the first conductivity type (N type) between the first layers (3) of the second conductivity type may become equal to the product between the width of the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type between the first layers (2) of the first conductivity type and the impurity concentration of the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type, in other words, that a charge balance may be attained.

[0134] In this manner, the concentration and trench width of the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type are measured beforehand, and in forming the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type, this first layer (3) of the second conductivity type can be formed while the charge balance is being adjusted. Thus, the withstand voltages of the semiconductor elements can be enhanced.

[0135] Further, in forming the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type, this first layer (3) of the second conductivity type can be formed without lowering the temperature of the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type stepwise. Thus, the outward diffusion of impurity ions from the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type into the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type can be prevented from occurring.

[0136] Besides, after the repeated structure has been formed, the N-channel type semiconductor element of the vertical type can be formed at the front surface layer part of the first layer (2) of the first conductivity type constituting the repeated structure.

[0137] To the contrary, after the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type has been prepared, the N-channel type semiconductor element of the vertical type is formed at the front surface layer part of the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type, whereupon at the later step of forming the trenches (11), the trenches (11) can be formed between the N-channel type semiconductor elements of the vertical type in the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type.

[0138] As the third feature, a substrate (10) of first conductivity type is prepared, and a trench (11) is formed on the front surface side of the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type, whereupon a first layer (3) of second conductivity type is epitaxially grown on the inner wall surface of the trench (11) to a thickness of, at most, half of the width of the trench (11). In addition, an oxide film (13) is formed on the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type epitaxially grown, and the trench (11) is filled up with the oxide film (13), whereby a region held between the first layers (3) of the second conductivity type, in the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type, is used as a first layer (2) of the first conductivity type, and a repeated structure in which the first layer (2) of the first conductivity type and the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type are alternately arranged is formed.

[0139] In this manner, the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type is epitaxially grown within the trench (11), whereby the width of the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type can be made small, and in turn, an ON-resistance in the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type can be lowered.

[0140] Besides, as the fourth feature, regarding the third feature, in forming the first layer (3) of the second conduc-

tivity type, the inner wall surface of the trench (11) provided in the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type is subjected to vapor phase diffusion or to ion implantation, whereby the wall surface of the trench (11) is formed into the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type.

[0141] In this manner, the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type is not formed within the trench (11), but the wall surface of the trench (11) can be formed as the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type.

[0142] In case of forming a semiconductor element, the repeated structure is formed, and the N-channel type semiconductor element of vertical type can be thereafter formed at the front surface layer part of a first layer (2) of first conductivity type constituting the repeated structure.

[0143] To the contrary, after a substrate (10) of the first conductivity type has been prepared, the N-channel type semiconductor element of the vertical type is formed at the front surface layer part of the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type, whereupon a trench (11) can be formed between the N-channel type semiconductor elements of the vertical type.

[0144] Besides, in preparing the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type, the impurity concentration of the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type is measured beforehand. In addition, after the N-channel type semiconductor element of the vertical type has been formed on the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type, the withstand voltage of the N-channel type semiconductor element of the vertical type is measured. Thereafter, in a case where the measured withstand voltage is lower than a reference value, the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type is heat-treated so that the product between the impurity concentration of the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type and the width of the first layer (2) of the first conductivity type between first layers (3) of second conductivity type may become equal to the product between the width of the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type between the first layers (2) of the first conductivity type and the impurity concentration of the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type. In this way, impurity ions contained in the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type can be absorbed out from this first layer (3) of the second conductivity type into an oxide film (13).

[0145] Thus, the charge balance between the first layer (2) of the first conductivity type and the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type can be attained, and the withstand voltage of the semiconductor element can be enhanced.

[0146] In the case of absorbing out the impurity ions of the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type into the oxide film (13) as stated above, in forming the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type, this first layer (3) of the second conductivity type should preferably be formed so that the impurity concentration of the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type may become higher than the impurity concentration of the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type.

[0147] That is, in the case where the impurity ions of the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type are absorbed out into the oxide film (13) by heat-treating the substrate (10) of the first conductivity type, thereby to attain the charge balance between the first layer (2) of the first conductivity type and the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type, the impurity ions are swept out from the first layer (3) of the second conductivity type. Therefore, the impurity concentration of the first layer (3) of the second